



Long Stratton Town Council

Annual Town Meeting

2025

Minutes from Annual Parish Meeting held 20th May 2025

Please see your agenda packs for the previous meeting's minutes.

Year End Accounts

Any questions?



Year Ending

31 March 2024

Precept £213,942

Payments £335,198

Receipts £42,724

Assets £1,651,082

31 March 2025

Precept £229,988

Payments £254,749

Receipts £46,666

Assets £1,656,173

Clerk's Report

This year has been very busy with the Council staff finding the workload has increased. This is due to providing additional services such as the youth café, pavilion bookings increasing and changes in staff which has seen us short staffed at times.

We continue to monitor what is happening with South Norfolk House and applied for the building to be Grade II listed which unfortunately did not get accepted.

As a team we are always looking at ways we can work smarter, and this has seen us use new technology such as Lemon Bookings to help with the Pavilion and using features such as Canva and ChatGPT: an AI system that helps us to streamline creating essential documents.

We continue to work with Octavius, and Councillor's Lunness and Harris along with the Clerk have been involved with the Long Stratton Enterprise Partnership who are looking how to support Long Stratton's community and infrastructure once the bypass has been delivered.

Since 1st April 2025 to 31st March 2025, we have processed 776 receipts and payments.

This equates to 65 per month and this is an increase of 57 receipts and payments from the last financial year.



Since 1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025, the office staff have received 35,887 emails.

This is an increase of 11,073 in a year and equates to a whopping 143 emails per working day!

This does not include the many emails that Anastasia receives.

Office Statistics

Youth Café had its 1st birthday on Wednesday 14th May 2025!
Young people celebrated with birthday brownies, balloons and a game of dodgeball, using the dodgeballs kindly donated to Youth Café from OneStop!

The youth café has been going from strength to strength and from April - October 2024 saw: 17 sessions delivered with 70 young people attending.

And from January - March 2025 10 sessions were delivered with 195 young people attending.

Youth Café regularly has around 20 young people in attendance, sometimes even more!



Highlights

- Trip to the broads: doing tasks like geocaching and canoeing.
 - Trip to How Hill for a Twilight walk
 - Waffle Night
 - Christmas trip to The Puppet Theatre
 - Sessions with Bike Active Norfolk
 - Smoothie making on a bike
 - Pizza making
 - Switch tournament
 - Cooking and craft making
 - ...and much more!
- Please see the quarterly report on the website.

Youth Work

Local Government Reorganisation will see the current 3 tiers of Local Authority, the Town Council, the District Council and the County Council changed to become the Town Council and a Unitary Authority.

At the time of writing the District Council and County Council are currently writing proposals as to how this may look.

The proposals will either be for 1, 2 or 3 Unitary Councils and will deliver the services currently provided by District and County Councils.

What this could mean for the Town Council is that some of the services may be devolved to the Town Council. This could happen quite quickly or over the next few years.

As a Council we need to start preparing for any eventuality and therefore the Council officers are looking at what services are currently provided and the options that may be available to the Council to ensure Long Stratton community get what they need.

Local Government Reorganisation

We had a brilliant day on the 10th
May 2025 where we all came
together as a community to
celebrate the 80th anniversary of VE
Day.

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The climbing wall and laser tag were
extremely popular, as was Alan's VE
day quiz.

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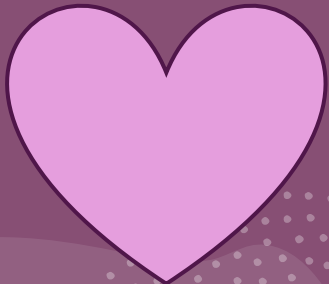
Emily Deal finished the event
singing acoustic popular songs.

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Thank you to everyone who
volunteered and to those that came
along and supported the event.



VE Day Celebrations



Chairman's Report

Events from 2024–2025 and aspirations for 2025-2026.

The Past Year

- Councillor surgery
- 2024 Summer Event
- Improved social media engagement
- Improved awareness of Council meetings
- Youth Café engagement and activities



Future Aspirations

- Night Skies consultation
- Preparing for Local Government Reorganisation
- Improving the centre of Long Stratton following bypass delivery.
- Community Centre
- Community Engagement



Staffing Changes

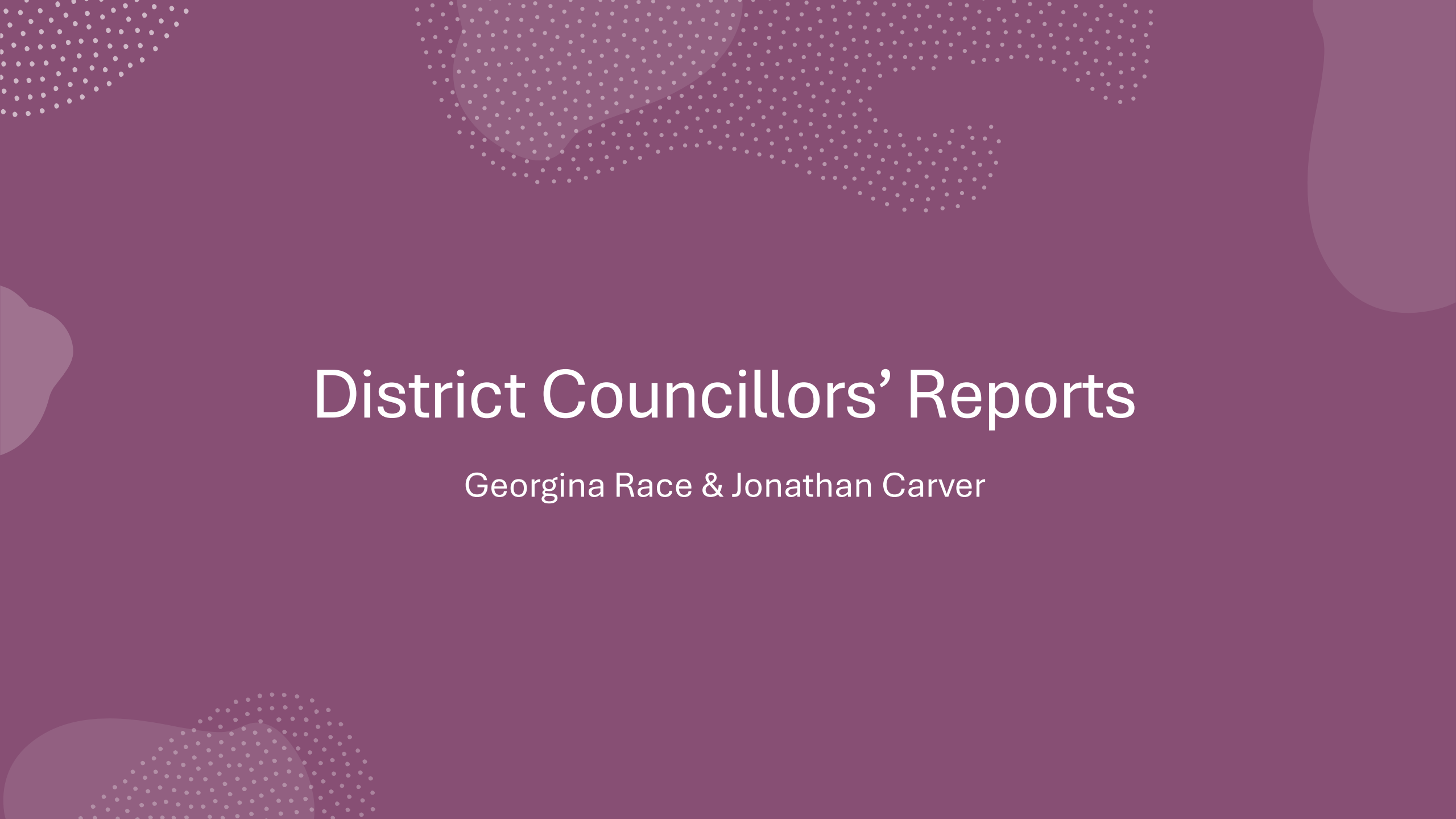
This time last year we were getting ready to say goodbye to Tom, this time this year I am pleased to say we are once again saying hello to Tom who has returned to work for the Council.

We are also pleased to say hello to Abi, who is working alongside Anastasia as the youth support worker. Abi has some fabulous ideas, and we look forward to exploring them further.



County Councillor's Report

Alison Thomas



District Councillors' Reports

Georgina Race & Jonathan Carver

Local Community Groups

What happened in 2024-2025 and aspirations for 2025-2026

Parishioners & Local Community Groups

Aspirations for the Council to consider in future years.

Discussion Time!

Any resolutions may be put forward for consideration.
Please discuss any ideas or suggestions you may have.